

### BOOK NOTICE

*American Social Insects* by Charles D. Michener and Mary H. Michener. D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc. Toronto, New York, London. October, 1951. xvi + 267 pp. 30 plates in color and 79 in gravure.

This book is the third in The New Illustrated Naturalist series. Like its predecessors it is of value to the professional worker as a reference; it is fascinating and well prepared, and could well serve to stimulate the uninitiated to further study of the subject.

The subject is covered in six parts, as follows: The Nature of Social Insects; The Hornets and Other Wasps; The Bees; The Ants; The Termites, and Societies and Their Parasites. There is also a short appendix giving some helpful basic information of structure and classification. A glossary of terms used and a bibliography add to the usefulness of the book. The illustrations are very well selected and the color work is thrilling.

There is no doubt that the Micheners enjoyed writing this book, introducing the reader to a field that has held their interest for many years. It cannot help but impart to the mind made receptive, a degree of their own enthusiasm in understanding the many complexities of the life that surround us. This book, lacking in drab accounts, is a real contribution to entomology and literature.—F. A. S.